TECHGIRLS PROGRAM

A PROGRAM FOR TEENAGE GIRLS WITH ADVANCED SKILLS IN TECHNOLOGY

SUMMER 2012

The Public Affairs Section is pleased to announce TechGirls, an exchange program in English for female secondary school students who have demonstrated advanced skills in and enthusiasm for applied technology and who intend to pursue continued studies and a likely future career in a technical field.

Program Description:

TechGirls will bring two to five teenage girls per country or territory from the Middle East and North Africa to the United States in June-July 2012 for a month-long exchange program focused on applied technology. Activities will include hands-on classes, labs, individual- or team-based project s, mentoring experiences, job shadowing, site visits to high tech companies and interaction with American peers. The program will be intensive, academic and highly interactive. The program sponsors seek energetic applicants who are interested in developing their technology and leadership skills in order to become future leaders and experts in the field of technology in their home countries.

The goals of TechGirls are:

- To provide an intensive program of academic study,
- To empower girls to pursue higher education and careers in technology,
- To link peers who share interests and abilities and
- To develop the leadership skills of the participants.

Who can apply?

Applicants must be high school girls, aged 15 to 17 years old, who already have a demonstrated aptitude and strong interest in the field of technology. TechGirls applicants must:

1. Be secondary school students between the ages of 15 and 17 (first and second year secondary school);

2. Have demonstrated advanced skills in and enthusiasm for technology, engineering, and/or math inside and outside the classroom:

3. Intend to pursue higher education and a career in technology;

4. Have strong English language skills;

5. Be excited about learning and exhibit maturity, flexibility, and open-mindedness;

6. Have one year secondary school studies remaining upon their return to their home country;

How to apply?

You will need two letters of reference in English, French or Arabic from teachers or other adults outside your family who know you well. The letters should describe how long the adult has known you and your academic and personal strengths and weaknesses, English skills, maturity and adaptability. Scan and send the letters and your transcripts after completing the TechGirls application form at the following email address: ouhenianx@state.gov .**The application deadline is March 7, 2012.**